

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A run flat tire wheel assembly comprising a run flat support member formed by a ring-shaped metal shell and rubbery elastic members in an inside cavity of a tire/rim, wherein said rubbery elastic member comprises a rubber composition comprising (A) 100 parts by weight of a diene-based rubber and (B) (i) 0.1 to 5 parts by weight of cobalt acetyl acetone and/or (B) (ii) (a), as a reinforcing filler, 40 to 90 parts by weight of carbon black/silica in a ratio of 10/1 to 1/2 (weight ratio) and (b) 1 to 20% by weight, based upon the weight of said silica, of a silane coupling agent, whereby the bondability between the ring-shaped metal shell and the rubbery elastic members is improved.
2. (Original) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the component (B) (ii) of the rubber composition further comprises (c) 1 to 10 parts by weight of sulfur, based upon 100 parts by weight of diene-based rubber.
3. (Currently Amended) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the rubbery elastic members of the run flat support member are arranged between the ring-shaped metal shell and the rim and have a structure for supporting the ring-shaped metal shell.
4. (Currently Amended) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the new material of the ring-shaped metal shell is steel or stainless steel.
5. (Currently Amended) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein, when the nominal radius of the tire is R (inch) and the contact area of the rubbery elastic member/the metal is S ( $\text{cm}^2$ ), the ratio S/R thereof is  $4.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{inch}$  or more.
6. (Currently Amended) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein the bonded surfaces are composed of surfaces in the substantially axial direction and surfaces in the substantially radial direction.

7. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein the rubbery elastic members of the run flat support member are arranged between the ring-shaped metal shell and the rim and have a structure for supporting the ring-shaped metal shell.

8. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein the new material of the ring-shaped metal shell is steel or stainless steel.

9. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed claim 3, wherein the new material of the ring-shaped metal shell is steel or stainless steel.

10. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein, when the nominal radius of the tire is R (inch) and the contact area of the rubbery elastic member/the metal is S ( $\text{cm}^2$ ), the ratio S/R thereof is  $4.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{inch}$  or more.

11. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein, when the nominal radius of the tire is R (inch) and the contact area of the rubbery elastic member/the metal is S ( $\text{cm}^2$ ), the ratio S/R thereof is  $4.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{inch}$  or more.

12. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 4, wherein, when the nominal radius of the tire is R (inch) and the contact area of the rubbery elastic member/the metal is S ( $\text{cm}^2$ ), the ratio S/R thereof is  $4.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{inch}$  or more.

13. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein the bonded surfaces are composed of surfaces in the substantially axial direction and surfaces in the substantially radial direction.

14. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the bonded surfaces are composed of surfaces in the substantially axial direction and surfaces in the substantially radial direction.

15. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 4, wherein the bonded surfaces are composed of surfaces in the substantially axial direction and surfaces in the substantially radial direction.

16. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 5, wherein the bonded surfaces are composed of surfaces in the substantially axial direction and surfaces in the substantially radial direction.

17. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein the new material of the ring-shaped metal shell is steel or stainless steel.

18. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein, when the nominal radius of the tire is R (inch) and the contact area of the rubbery elastic member/the metal is S ( $\text{cm}^2$ ), the ratio S/R thereof is  $4.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{inch}$  or more.

19. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 8, wherein, when the nominal radius of the tire is R (inch) and the contact area of the rubbery elastic member/the metal is S ( $\text{cm}^2$ ), the ratio S/R thereof is  $4.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{inch}$  or more.

20. (New) A tire wheel assembly as claimed in claim 9, wherein, when the nominal radius of the tire is R (inch) and the contact area of the rubbery elastic member/the metal is S ( $\text{cm}^2$ ), the ratio S/R thereof is  $4.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{inch}$  or more.